

REMARKS

This Amendment, submitted in response to the Office Action dated April 14, 2006, is believed to be fully responsive to each point of rejection raised therein. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-27, 29-57, 59-87 and 89-96 are now all the claims pending in the application.

The Examiner has indicated that claims 5-12, 14-16, 19-20, 22-25, 27-28, 35-42, 44-46, 49-50, 52-54, 57-58, 65-72, 74-76, 79-80, 82-85, and 87-88 contain allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant does not admit that the rejected claims are not patentable over the prior art. Consequently, Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the rejected claims in a continuing application. However, to expedite the prosecution for the application, Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 31 and 61 to include the subject matter of allowable claims 28, 58 and 88, respectively. Consequently, claims 1, 31 and 61 and their dependent claims should be deemed allowable.

Claims 1-4, 13, 17-18, 21, 26, 29-34, 43, 47-48, 51, 55-56, 59-64, 73, 77-78, 81, 86 and 89-90 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Haderle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,581,750; hereinafter "Haderle"). However, Applicant submits that the rejection of claims 1-4, 13, 17-18, 21, 26, 29-34, 43, 47-48, 51, 55-56, 59-64, 73, 77-78, 81, 86 and 89-90 is now moot.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
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Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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